Message Text

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APPROVED BY PM/SAS - DJJAMES
NEA - MR. GREENE
NEA/RA - COL. HOBBS (INFO)
DOD/DSAA - COL. MARTIN (INFO)
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, IR

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FMS SALE RE PERSONNEL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR F-14/PHOENIX WEAPONS SYSTEM

REF: STATE 072947

1. RE PARA 5 REFTEL, CONGRESS WAS PROVIDED FORMAL CERTIFICATION ON MAY 4 RELATED TO PROPOSED LETTER OF OFFER FOR THE FMS SALE RE PERSONNEL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR F-14/PHOENIX WEAPONS SYSTEM FOR IRAN. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 36(B) OF THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT, AS AMENDED, THE QUOTE LETTER OF OFFER SHALL NOT BE ISSUED IF THE CONGRESS, WITHIN THIRTY CALENDAR DAYS AFTER RECEIVING SUCH CERTIFICATION, ADOPTS A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION STATING THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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IT OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSED SALE UNQUOTE.

2. FOLLOWING ARE PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS OF UNCLASSIFIED POLICY JUSTIFICATION WHICH ACCOMPANIED CERTIFICATION: QUOTE THE F-14 IS AN ADVANCED JET INTERCEPTOR FOR AIR DEFENSE WHICH CARRIES THE LONG-RANGE PHOENIX AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE. F-14 AIRCRAFT WERE APPROVED FOR SALE TO IRAN IN

JANUARY AND MAY OF 1974. THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN HAS BEEN CONTRACTING WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR THE U.S. MANUFACTURER, THE GRUMMAN CORPORATION, TO TRAIN IRANIAN PER-

SONNEL TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE F-14/PHOENIX WEAPONS SYSTEM UNTIL SUFFICIENT NUMBERS OF IRANIAN AIR FORCE PERSONNEL HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE AIRCRAFT AND THEIR ARMAMENT WITHOUT U.S. TECHNICIAN SUPPORT. THERE ARE PRESENTLY 22 U.S. GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND 399 AMERICAN CIVILIAN CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES IN IRAN UNDER THE F-14/PHOENIX PROGRAM.

THE PROPOSED LETTER OF OFFER. NOW VALUED AT \$76 MILLION. (VICE A PREVIOUS ESTIMATED \$154 MILLION BASED ON A HIGHER LEVEL OF SUPPORT SERVICES ORIGINALLY REQUESTED BY IRAN) INVOLVES SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE IRANIAN F-14/PHOENIX WEAPONS SYSTEM THROUGH CALENDAR YEAR 1978 AND INCLUDES SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE IN IRAN, A COMBAT CREW TRAINING SQUADRON, THE NAVAL ENGINEERING SERVICE UNIT, THE DEFENSE CONTRACTOR AUDIT AGENCY, AND CONTRACTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES. THE LETTER OF OFFER WOULD ALSO IN-VOLVE THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE AMERICAN PERSONNEL LIVING IN IRAN IN CONNECTION WITH THE F-14/ PHOENIX PROGRAM INCLUDING VOICE AND DATA COMMUNICATION FACILITIES FOR THE U.S. MANAGEMENT OFFICE. IN ADDITION THE LETTER OF OFFER INCLUDES FUNDS FOR THE PAYMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES OF U.S. GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL PERFORMING TEMPORARY DUTY IN IRAN IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROGRAM.

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APPROVAL OF THIS SALE IS CONSISTENT WITH THE USG POLICY TO SUPPORT EQUIPMENT PREVIOUSLY SOLD AND TO ASSIST IRAN TO MAINTAIN A CREDIBLE AIR DEFENSE CAPABILITY. NO ADDITIONAL U.S. GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL WOULD BE ASSIGNED TO IRAN TO CARRY OUT THIS PROPOSED SALE. AMERICAN CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES RELATED TO THIS PROGRAM WILL INCREASE TO 505 BY DECEMBER 1977, AND WILL DECLINE TO 431 BY DECEMBER 1978. UNQUOTE

3. AS APPROPRIATE, EMBASSY MAY INFORM HOST GOVERNMENT OF THIS CERTIFICATION TO THE CONGRESS. VANCE

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Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009

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